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Approved For Release 2003/05/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R000700080013-5

62-7029/1

10 October 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Kirkpatrick

SUBJECT : Declassification of Information

REFERENCE : DDCI's Memorandum to Executive Director,
26 September 1962 (Attachment A)

1. Executive Order 10501, Section 4, sets forth the basic declassification policy within the U. S. Government, that "Heads of departments or agencies originating classified material shall designate persons to be responsible for declassifying, etc." (See Colonel Edward's memorandum - Attachment B) Judging from his remarks to the senior staff on 9 October, the DDCI is well aware of this.

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3. The following actions might help to safeguard against the type of recurrences we are considering:

✓ a. Refer to the DCI any outside request for declassification as already directed by the DDCI.

✓ b. Education: I believe you are already considering means to educate the White House staff and others on the dangers of imprudent declassification by a hard hitting paper that will cite specific examples of where damage has been done. All whom I have talked to on this matter agree that this is essential.

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OGC Has Reviewed

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Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

yes -
NSA should
have action

should broaden key net
NSA - to come
active sources

filed

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- ✓ c. Damage Assessment Procedure: A possible gimmick that might make the White House personnel, and others seeking to declassify, more conscious of the dangers of publicizing intelligence information is for the DCI to establish regular damage assessment procedures. There are several bodies that could make the assessment for the DCI in any instance where the DCI feels significant data has been given away. Although such reports would often contain too sensitive information to get wide distribution, they would come to the attention of the individuals that count in pushing for declassification. If carried out over a period, the effort could well be to make people think twice before putting publicity before security considerations.

Good -

- d. NSC Action: To quote John Warner, "Authority to institute controls (for protection of intelligence by non-CIA departments from unauthorized disclosure) and procedures beyond CIA would require appropriate NSC action, presumable after USIB consideration."

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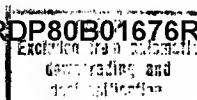
- ✓ d. Memorandum or notice clearly outlining the Agency responsibilities on and policies concerning declassification.

4. Also of possible interest:

a. As a result of its concern over the content of certain newspaper articles and publications in 1959, the USIB proposed a Presidential Directive governing disclosures of classified intelligence. This was issued on 23 May 1960. (Attachment D)

b. On 29 June 1960 USIB issued an implementing memorandum entitled "Agreed Guidance for the Implementation of the Presidential Directive on Disclosures of Classified Intelligence". (Attachment E)

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5. If any of the above would be useful for the DCI or DDCI, I can work up a memorandum with any changes or additions you want.



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